CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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ENGLISH

FINAL RECORD OF THE SIX HUNDRED AND SEVENTH PLENARY MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Thursday, 23 January 1992, at 10.a.m.

President: Mr. Naste Calovski (Yugoslavia)

GE.92-60174/8475a

The PRESIDENT: I declare open the 607th plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament.

I am informed by the secretariat that no delegation is listed to speak today. In accordance with the practice of the Conference, however, I should like to ask whether any member wishes to speak at this stage. I see none.

Obviously, we will be adjourning very early today, but I hope that we can put the time available this morning to good use for some informal consultations which might help us to advance our work. As you know, we still need to achieve consensus on organizational arrangements for some agenda items. We also need to provide chairmen for two subsidiary bodies already established, and we might also need to appoint others for ad hoc committees if, as I expect, we establish other subsidiary bodies. There is also the question of "Transparency of armaments", on which I have to consult, as I noted in my presidential statement on Tuesday. While I am responsible for such consultations, I do hope that members will also engage in informal contacts to assist me in discharging this responsibility.

The question is also pending of participation of States not members of the Conference in our work. There are already 38 requests before the Conference, and I hope that we will be able to take them up at the plenary meeting next Tuesday. I should also like to note that the speakers at our opening plenary meeting advanced ideas and suggestions which will require consultations. I therefore invite you to keep these comments in mind after I adjourn the plenary meeting and to use the time made available by the lack of speakers to assist me in advancing our work concerning organizational arrangements.

The two small conference rooms attached to the Council Chamber are available for any delegations wishing to conduct consultations. I am informed that the East European Group will meet in room C.108 directly after this plenary meeting.

For the time being, I will not circulate the weekly timetable of meetings to be held by the Conference and its subsidiary bodies, since only the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons is in a position to start substantive work. I shall do so once we have other ad hoc committees aready to commence their activities.

At the request of the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Chemical Weapons, I wish to inform you that the first meeting of that subsidiary body will be held tomorrow, Friday, at 10 a.m., in this conference room.

I have no other business for today, and I shall now adjourn this plenary meeting. The next plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament will be held on Tuesday, 28 January, at 10 a.m.

The meeting rose at 10.25 a.m.